



Jayne Tsuchiyama, D.Ac., D.A.O.M., Dipl. O.M.

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Mar 19, 2022

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

SB2276 SD2 Hearing Date: March 22nd, 2022 at 2:00pm

**Position on SB2276 SD2 : SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Aaron Ling Johanson and Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, members of the Committee,

I am a nationally board certified, licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) in Hawaii and New York and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I also sit on the Board of Commissioners for the NCCAOM, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I reside in Honolulu and practice acupuncture medicine at the Queen's Medical Center.

I have been practicing acupuncture medicine since 2004, focusing my efforts on the integration of western and eastern medicine within hospitals and research institutions. I have worked side by side with institutions such as the Queen's Medical Center, UH Cancer Research, MD Anderson, Susan G Komen Hawaii and Memorial Sloan Kettering. Working with academic and medical institutions requires stringent safety and credentialing standards, and is key to advancing healthcare integration - which is why I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of: SB2276 SD2

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute has not been updated in over 20 years and is outdated in its language, and deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions

Hawaii has a long history of its support for acupuncture medicine, as well as the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state. I respectfully ask you to please support SB2276 SD2.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dr. Jayne Tsuchiyama, D.Ac. DAOM, Dipl. OM (NCCAOM)

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Honorable Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa

Hawaii Acupuncture Association

Board of Directors and Members

haamember@aol.com

Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 2:00pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

## Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce Members,

We, the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association, represent our members and colleagues, as well as our patients and citizens of Hawaii in testifying today in support of measure SB2276 SD2 HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare due to increased access for the public via medical insurance and Medicare inclusion, as well as its demand as the primary alternative to opioid prescriptions and other medical conditions. The increase in scientific data has verified acupuncture medicine's efficacy in a range of health conditions. Simultaneously with increasing demand and evidence in efficacy, the educational, certification and continuing education standards have improved nationally. Since changes over the last twenty years have not been made to the Hawaii acupuncture medicine scope of practice, the statute must be updated now to represent the current state.

We want our profession to be able to serve the citizens in Hawaii safely and knowledgably. We want to integrate in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, hospice, and other care settings to provide the highest standard of care. As we integrate acupuncture medicine with allopathic medicine and within the health care delivery system in Hawaii, we want patients to be assured of evidence-based, evidence-informed medicine that is understandable and current.

To provide Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the standards of practice for our industry.

We respectfully request for clarification the following language be included in the declaration:

1."[[§436E-1]] **Declaration of necessity for regulation and control.** The legislature hereby finds and declares that acupuncture medicine is an evidence-based medicine rooted in traditional and modern modalities and that the practice of acupuncture [is a theory and method for] medicine includes examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of [illness and disability and for strengthening and invigorating the body and as such affects] the patient, therefore requiring regulation and control as an essential service for public health, safety, and welfare.

2. "Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, as further determined by administrative rules."

These recommendations, along with the following, reflect what Hawaii Acupuncture Association sees as necessary standards of practice for our industry in the State of Hawaii:

- Legacy exemptions are defined
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc in line with national trends
- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification, and continuing education
- New definitions aligned with current medical terminology, education, training, and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii

We ask for your support for SB2276 SD2 HD1 ensuring that this profession provides an educated and safe health care delivery system in Hawaii. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2 HD1.

Respectfully,

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc  
President, Hawaii Acupuncture Association

Jeffrey A. Tice, DACM, DAc  
Vice President, Hawaii Acupuncture Association

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 2:50:49 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy and Errol Rubin	Rubin Enterprises.llc	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Alternative medicine needs accountability, a sense of working together within the community in a way that the patient knows they are getting the best services possible. Utilizing education, licensing, and oversight within the group is essential for this to happen. Please support bull SB2276 to create security and accountability within the Hawaii health services



# AcuPlan Hawaii

Oriental Medicine...5000 years of quality healthcare

March 19, 2022

From: Samantha Preis, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.  
President, Acuplan Hawaii  
46-005 Kawa St., Suite 304  
Kaneohe, HI 97644  
[windwardqi@gmail.com](mailto:windwardqi@gmail.com)  
(808) 247-9800

RE: Support of SB2276                      Acupuncture Scope of Practice Update

To the Honorable Chair Rep. Johansen, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am writing to you on behalf of Acuplan Hawaii, an organization of over 50 acupuncturists in Hawaii that seek to promote the professional status of acupuncture by connecting with medical professionals and increasing availability of acupuncture through insurance coverage. We contract as exclusive providers for University Health Alliance (UHA) and Hawaii Medical Assurance Association (HMAA) and Hawaii-Western Management Group (HWMG). **We are in strong support of SB2276.**

HMSA, Kaiser, The Veteran's Administration and many medicare supplement plans all cover acupuncture in some or all of their plans. These insurance companies can determine reimbursement based on what is allowed under our scope of practice. Right now, our scope leaves a lot of room for confusion which results in rejected claims. As evidence for acupuncture grows, coverage will grow and clear language in the scope of practice will be crucial. Compensation for essential services such as evaluations and adequate treatment time must be appropriate and recognized.

The profession of acupuncture is evolving as we now have both Master's and Doctorate degrees. We must evolve along with it. Updating the scope of practice will allow acupuncturists to practice in Hawaii to our fullest potential and bring Hawaii up to the national standards of competency and safety. It will better protect the public against unlicensed and unqualified individuals who may pose a danger to public safety by practicing without a license.

Updating our scope elevates the practice of acupuncture in Hawaii, recognizing and respecting the power of this unique and ever-evolving medicine.

Respectfully,

Samantha Preis, L.Ac., Dipl. O.M.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 11:46:27 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amy Norton	Amy Norton L.Ac.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

[If representing organization or group here]

[Email or contact #]

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 am

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I reside [in\_\_Kauai, HI\_] and practice acupuncture medicine [in \_Kapaa\_]. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

Below are the highlights that I find important:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Amy C. Norton







# Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

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## COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Relating to Acupuncture

### Testimony Supporting SB 2276 SD2 HD1

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Dear Honorable Chair, Aaron Johanson and the Honorable Vice Chair, Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

My name is Dr. Wai Hoa Low, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), testifying on behalf of the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM).

We are writing in **Support of SB 2276 SD2 HD1** that would make comprehensive updates to chapter 436E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, regarding acupuncture practitioners to reflect modernized scopes of practice, titles, and licensing and renewal requirements, including thirty hours of continuing education per licensing biennium.

Hawaii's consumers and students will appreciate the benefits and protection from this bill that revitalizes HRS 436E which has not been updated for over 20 years. Though we support the measure, we would like to take this opportunity to voice pertinent information to those opposing our measure as it courses through the various hearings.

Firstly, there has been testimony submitted by the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture (AAMA) requesting the repeal of HRS 436-3.5 which prohibits physicians and osteopaths from practicing acupuncture unless licensed under the Statute of Acupuncture Practitioners. HRS 436-3.5 has a lengthy legislative history dating back to 1985 which finally ended with the Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs requesting the State of Hawaii Department of the Attorney General (AG) for its legal advice in regards to medical acupuncture being outside of the scope of practice of acupuncture and whether those licensed physicians and osteopaths may practice medical acupuncture without having to be licensed by the Board of Acupuncture. The AG's Opinion No. 03-5 dated August 18, 2003 delineated the following:

1. There was a longstanding legal precedent that included several measures from physicians and osteopaths requesting to practice acupuncture. This resulted in the concerns expressed by the Board of Medical Examiners (BME) and Board of Osteopathic Examiners (BOE) regarding an internal lack of knowledge, expertise, and standards necessary to make rules and regulations about the certification of its licensees in acupuncture. This would create an additional burden

for both Boards. Thus, the Legislature unequivocally stated that the physicians and osteopaths who desire to practice acupuncture must be licensed by the Board of Acupuncture. Therefore, there is no ambiguity in the law.

2. Medical acupuncture is not distinct from traditional acupuncture and does not fall outside of the scope of practice of acupuncture. Therefore, physicians must be licensed by the Board of Acupuncture. (State Of Hawaii Department of The Attorney General, 2003)

Based on these findings, it is important to note that the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of Hawaii must be of paramount concern, and the regulation of those desiring to practice acupuncture must fall under the purview of the Board of Acupuncture.

Secondly, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), Acupuncture treats numerous disorders. For the first time in history, since its implementation in January 2022, the WHO has included Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) in **Chapter 26 of the ICD-11** (International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems). This initiative is not only a landmark for the ICD but also a milestone for TCM as an **essential service**. It contributes to the integration of TCM with multiple Western medicine-based disciplines and the progressive reform of the world healthcare system.

We acknowledge the intent of the Hawaii Medical Association (HMA) to amend our measure in deleting the phrase of “advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine” due to concerns of liability exposure and causing potential harm to the consumer. However, we strongly disagree with their rationale. No one can dispute that TCM has a history of 2,000+ years and internal medicine plays an integral part of primary care for a billion people halfway around the world and is considered an **essential service**.

Our curriculum includes both Western and Eastern internal medicine classes. We do not intend to be compared to the internal medicine specialty of Western medicine with 8,000 hours. The WHO has already sanctioned TCM in Chapter 26 of the ICD-11 diagnostic codes in a section on TCM Internal Medicine (see attached link). These diagnostic codes are considered as the key reference source for healthcare practitioners and insurance companies around the world. If the WHO acknowledges TCM internal medicine, so it behooves our colleagues in Western medicine to do the same. One of our advanced techniques include specialty training in Neuro-Acupuncture that is used worldwide for those suffering from debilitating neurological disorders, namely stroke victims and traumatic brain injuries. We have evidence-based research on many TCM internal medicine disorders that are found in credible publications. Current Acupuncture research studies at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and worldwide universities confirm the benefits of Acupuncture in treating not only pain, but also internal disorders.

The Acupuncture profession is tranquil, collaborative, and seeks harmony with other healthcare providers.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

ICAOM recommends to the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce to amend the language in the following sections to read as follows:

- 1) **Section 3. “Section 436E-1 Declaration of necessity for regulation and control. The legislature hereby finds and declares that acupuncture medicine is an evidence-based medicine rooted in traditional and modern modalities and that the practice of acupuncture medicine includes examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of the patient, therefore requiring regulation and control as an essential service for public health, safety, and welfare.”**
  
- 2) **Section 4. Section 436E-2. “Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine” means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics as further determined by administrative rules.”**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully,

Dr. Wai Hoa Low, President  
DAOM, MBA, D.Ac.

References:

26 Supplementary Chapter Traditional Medicine Conditions - Module I

<https://icd.who.int/browse11/l-m/en#/http%3a%2f%2fid.who.int%2fid%2fentify%2f718687701>

State Of Hawaii Department of The Attorney General. (2003, August 18). *Medical Acupuncture as it Relates to the Scope of Practice of Acupuncture (op. 03-05)*. The State of Hawaii.

<https://ag.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/03-05.pdf>

WHO International Standard Terminologies on Traditional Medicine in the Western Pacific Region  
Web-PDF pages 172 to 19

[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/206952/9789290612487\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/206952/9789290612487_eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 12:21:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joyce Tamori	Longevity Health Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2276 SD2 HD1.



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## COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Relating to Acupuncture

### Testimony Supporting SB 2276 SD2 HD1

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Dear Honorable Chair, Aaron Johanson and the Honorable Vice Chair, Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

My name is Marilyn Allen, Vice-President of the American Acupuncture Council (AAC), Editor of Acupuncture Today, US Representative to World Health Organization (WHO) on the Committee for Traditional Medicine Resource, the Committee on Education and Implementation, and the Quality of Care and Patient Safety Technical Advisory Committee. I am also a Professor of Ethics, Laws, Regulations and Professional Development for several Traditional Medicine Universities across the U.S. I am testifying on behalf of the (AAC) in Support of SB 2276 SD2.

As of January 2022, the WHO has released its updated version of the international classification of disease -11 and the new classification of traditional medicine/acupuncture diagnostic codes for worldwide use. When ICD-11 is adopted in the United States, Acupuncture will be able to be integrated into the healthcare system. This needs to be reflected in the Hawaii practice act. The importance of this landmark ICD-11 is as follows:

1. Traditional medicine codes will provide a worldwide foundation for the Practice of Acupuncture.
2. The WHO general assembly accepted these codes unanimously.
3. The use of these codes will create and collect data to be used in research to further prove the efficacy of acupuncture.
4. Double coding by practitioners will help to begin to integrate both eastern and western ICD codes. Double coding means the use of a western code, a traditional medicine disorder and the pattern differentiation process.

Currently Medicare is conducting a nationwide research study on low back pain for seniors with Acupuncturists delivering treatment. It is being conducted in coordination with medical doctors because Acupuncturists are not included in Medicare yet. A Medicare Bill, HR 4803, has been introduced into the Congress of the United States. This bill simply conveys the message to have the word Acupuncturist added into the Social Security Act.

The Bureau of Labor and Statistics has collected data for the first time, through the census collection to include Acupuncturists as an independent occupation in the United States.

The Veterans Administration now includes Acupuncture as a part of their healthcare choices for veterans.

We fully support the Acupuncture Practice Act to be updated in your current practice standards for licensed Acupuncturist. The States of Colorado, Arizona, and Minnesota are currently updating their practice acts to reflect the full scope of practice for Acupuncturists. Traditional Medicine/Acupuncture must be given as choices and healthcare for the citizens of the great State of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully,

Marilyn Allen, MS  
Vice-President American Acupuncture Council

**SB-2276-HD-1**

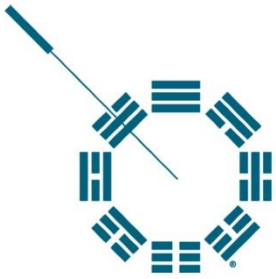
Submitted on: 3/20/2022 3:43:44 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kirby Dillberg	Pain Free Kauai	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pain Free Kauai INC supports this bill.



## AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE®

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21 March 2022

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Representative Aaron Johanson, Chair

**Re: HI SB2276 SD2 HD1**  
**Position: OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Johanson and Committee Members,

We are representatives of the Legislative Committee of the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture (AAMA). We are writing to share information in opposition to SB2276.

Section 6 of this bill regarding Section 436E-3.5 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes would be updated with the term “acupuncture medicine,” but it still prohibits physicians and osteopaths from practicing acupuncture in Hawaii unless licensed as LAcS. We are aware of the opinion issued by the Department of the Attorney General of Hawaii from August 2003 that stated medical acupuncture (as practiced by physicians) is not sufficiently distinct from traditional acupuncture and therefore physicians should be licensed by the Board of Acupuncture in order to practice. This statement, issued almost twenty years ago, is conclusory in nature and nearly devoid of any specific factual underpinning.

First of all, physicians receive 11+ years of medical education during which we study anatomy and learn procedures such as giving injections, drawing blood samples and arterial blood gases, and starting intravenous lines and central venous lines. Therefore physicians are familiar with anatomy and how to safely introduce needles into human tissue. **There is no evidence that LAcS deliver safer or more effective acupuncture than physicians.**

Secondly, **there is no one right way to do acupuncture.** There are eight medical acupuncture training programs for physicians approved by the American Board of Medical Acupuncture. These programs teach a variety of acupuncture methods in addition to traditional Chinese acupuncture such as French energetics, Canadian neuroanatomical acupuncture, Japanese style acupuncture, and Chinese scalp acupuncture to name a few. All of these methods can be beneficial when applied to the right patients in the appropriate circumstances.

Next, **forty-eight states and the District of Columbia permit physicians to perform acupuncture** with the scope of practice of their medical licenses or with an additional 200 to 300 hours of training in approved programs. The legislatures and medical boards of these states recognize that physicians can provide a valuable health care service to their residents.

And lastly, it is poor public policy to restrict access to high quality, low-cost health care such as acupuncture. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Veterans Health Administration cover acupuncture treatments for a number of conditions, and these acupuncture treatments may be administered by physicians. The State of Hawaii can and should support physician acupuncturists likewise.

We ask that this bill be rejected unless Section 436E-3.5 is amended to exempt physicians from the requirements for licensed acupuncturists. We also recommend the formation of an exploratory committee of members from the Hawaii Acupuncture Association and the Hawaii Medical Association be convened to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between the organizations.

Respectfully,  
Donna Pittman, MD  
Gavin Elliott, MD  
James Bromberg, MD MPH JD



**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 3:54:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Steven Rosenblatt, MD, PhD	OceanMed Integrative Health Clinic	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Representatives--

I am a licensed and practicing medical doctor in the State of Hawaii. I am also national board certified in Acupuncture and in Oriental Medicine. I served six years as a commissioner on the national Accreditation Commission for Schools of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. I am chief medical officer of the OceanMed Clinic on the Island of Hawaii.

I support this bill because it will not only strengthen the Acupuncture profession and bring it up to national standards, but will also serve to protect the citizens of the State of Hawaii by assuring high levels of professional care and adding important resources to the health care delivery system of the entire state.

Steven Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, LAc



Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac.  
Mariya Gold, L.Ac.  
320 Uluniu Street Suite 2  
Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
808-262-4550  
855-594-5059 (fax)

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March 20, 2022

Hawaii State Legislature  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

**RE: SUPPORT OF SB2276 SD2 HD1**

Dear Honorable Chair Johanson and Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee,

I have been a licensed acupuncturist in Hawaii for 32 years. I have been a very active member of my profession from past president of Hawaii Acupuncture Association (HAA), Co-Founder of the non-profit AcuPlan Hawaii, RICO advisor and six years on the Board of Acupuncture, serving as the Chair for the past two years.

I am in full support of SB2276 SD 2 HD1 as it comprehensively updates and modernizes our statute, bringing it into alignment with current national standards in education and training as well as recognizing the advancements in research and integration into medical systems that our

I fully support the addition of minimal Continuing Education Standards and find that 30 hours every two years is necessary, in line with national standards, and not a burden given how many courses can be taken online at very little cost.

To provide for Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, statutory updates must accurately reflect the Acupuncture Medicine industry's education and continue to meet current best standards of practice and care for the safest medicine for all patients in the state of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joni Kroll, D.Ac., L.Ac  
Dipl Acup (NCCAOM)  
Dipl Acup Orthopedics (NBAO)  
Chair, State of Hawaii Board of Acupuncture



**House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa**

**Tuesday March 22, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.**

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc  
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2276, SD2, HD1**

**To the Honorable Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Committee Members,**

My name is Jeffrey Tice, and am a Doctor of Acupuncture in the state of Hawaii (#732). My practice is in Wailuku, Maui where I co-own Longevity Health Center with my wife, Joyce Tamori. I am also vice president of Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I fully support SB 2276, SD2, HD1 to improve the language in the scope of practice for acupuncture medicine in the State of Hawaii and to elevate the licensure requirements for future generations of Licensed Acupuncturists to serve the people safely and effectively. I also support the following amendments to be added for further clarification of the intent of this bill:

1. "[§436E-1] Declaration of necessity for regulation and control. The legislature hereby finds and declares that acupuncture medicine is an evidence-based medicine rooted in traditional and modern modalities and that the practice of acupuncture [is a theory and method for] medicine includes examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of [illness and disability and for strengthening and invigorating the body and as such affects] the patient, therefore requiring regulation and control as an essential service for public health, safety, and welfare[-and therefore there is a necessity that individuals practicing acupuncture be subject to regulation and control]."
2. "Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, as further determined by administrative rules."

Acupuncture and associated modalities historically termed Traditional Chinese Medicine or Oriental medicine, is the oldest continuous, documented medicine on the planet, yet also one of the fastest growing today. It has a long history in Asia (4000+ years) yet is relatively new to the rest of the world (100 years). Hawaii was an early adopter of licensing acupuncture in the United States, predating formal accredited schools and national board



certifications. Much has changed in the profession over the last four decades and especially in the last twenty plus years since the current statute, 436E was updated.

Acupuncturists licensed to practice in Hawaii practice under two titles, Licensed Acupuncturist (LAc) and Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc). Although two licenses are uncommon in the United States, the current trend is towards a two-tiered profession with Masters level education as the entry point, often specializing in acupuncture while the accredited Doctoral level for Doctors of Acupuncture Medicine to use a more complete practice of the medicine formerly known as Traditional Chinese Medicine or Traditional Oriental Medicine. Both of these education and scope of practice levels are justified with education and national certification in SB 2276, SD2, HD1. The updated nomenclature, Acupuncture Medicine, preserves this historically significant practice of medicine and helps it smoothly integrate into the modern healthcare system in Hawaii.

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc  
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Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB2276, SD 2, HD1.

Jeffrey A Tice, DACM, DAc

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johnson  
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Denice Murphy, L.Ac, Dipl.Ac, MSOM  
Malama I ke Ola Holistic Health Center  
denicemurphy@mac.com

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022  
Time: 2:00am  
Via Videoconference/online testimony  
Position on SB2276, SD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Senator Baker, Honorable Vice Chair Senator Chang,  
and Consumer Protection Committee Members,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (L.Ac) for over 30 years, and an active member (Director), of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I reside in Kailua Kona and practice acupuncture medicine in Holualoa, on the Big Island of Hawaii. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates. Below are the highlights:

- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations (436E-3): LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education and national board certification. Add continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions (436E-2) aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations (436E-3): LAc, DAc. in line with national trends

- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with the highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues our Aloha, and thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Denice Murphy, L.Ac, Dipl.Ac, MSOM

**Testimony of the Board of Acupuncture**

**Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Tuesday, March 22, 2022  
2:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:  
S.B. 2276, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURE**

Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Risé Doi, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Acupuncture (Board). The Board supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to make comprehensive updates to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) chapter 436E, regarding acupuncture practitioners, to reflect modernized scopes of practice, titles, and licensing and renewal requirements, including thirty hours of continuing education per licensing biennium beginning July 1, 2025. Additionally, this bill allows the Board to issue licenses by reciprocity.

The Board supports this measure because it modernizes the statutes to align with the current professional standards and activities provided by licensed acupuncturists.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

1360 S. Beretania Street, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone (808) 536-7702 Fax (808) 528-2376  
www.hawaiimedicalassociation.org

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date: March 22, 2022

From: Hawaii Medical Association

Roger Kimura MD, AMA Delegate for Hawaii

Bernard Robinson MD, AMA Delegate for Hawaii

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio MD, Chair, HMA Legislative Committee

**Re: SB 2276 SD2 HD 1**

**Acupuncture; Acupuncture Practitioners; Acupuncture Medicine Doctors;**

**Licensure; Continuing Education**

**Position: OPPOSE**

HMA has reviewed the HHH committee report and appreciates the amendment "Changing references from "acupuncture medicine physician" to "acupuncture medicine doctor". HMA has continued concerns regarding internal medicine training that is still included in the "Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" definition in Section 4

"Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training, as further determined by rules adopted by the board."

An Internal Medicine residency program requires a minimum of three years of intensive training, easily involving 8,000 hours of training, to qualify for the certification examination as an Internal Medicine physician. It is unlikely that training and licensure requirements for acupuncturists, as specified in the proposed amendments, will be satisfactory as equivalent training. The inclusion of the language regarding the use of internal medicine training may have the unintended consequences of exposing the consumer/public to harm and the certified acupuncturist to legal exposure. The ultimate consequence of the proposed comprehensive update may be a decrease access to acupuncture services for consumers.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. HMA respectfully recommends removal of the language in HRS436 E-1, Section 4 regarding internal medicine training: "...and the use of advanced diagnostics,

**HMA OFFICERS**

President – Angela Pratt, MD President-Elect – Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD  
Immediate Past President – Michael Champion, MD Treasurer – Nadine Tenn Salle, MD  
Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD Executive Director – Marc Alexander





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specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training..." so that the proposed language reads:

"Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine ~~and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, based on additional traditional and biomedical internal medicine training,~~ as further determined by administrative rules."

2. HMA kindly requests review and/or collaboration with the Acupuncture Board and the Hawaii Medical Board which may be impacted by this language.

Thank you for allowing the Hawaii Medical Association to testify on this measure.

## REFERENCES AND QUICK LINKS

1. [Definition and Use of the Term Physician H-405.951.](#) American Medical Association AMA-assn.org. 2019.
2. [Acupuncture H - 270.974.](#) American Medical Association AMA-assn.org. 2019.
3. [Acupuncture.](#) Medicare.gov.

## HMA OFFICERS

President – Angela Pratt, MD President-Elect – Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD  
Immediate Past President – Michael Champion, MD Treasurer – Nadine Tenn Salle, MD  
Secretary – Thomas Kosasa, MD Executive Director – Marc Alexander



*Lifestyle*  
**Medical Center**

Medical Director: Elizabeth Chen Christenson, MD. LAc

**To: The Honorable House of Representatives/Hawaii State Legislature  
CPC Committee**

**RE: Opposition Statement for Acupuncture Legislation (SB 2276) March 21, 2022**

In this present time of international conflict, invasion of property and hostile takeover, this bill can offer a perfect opportunity for collaboration, dialogue and creative design that integrates two exceptional systems of medicine, based on only the highest standards of education and healthcare options. However, this bill, in its present state, fails to achieve this.

As a board certified physician, a licensed acupuncturist and a certified medical acupuncturist, I restate my respect and admiration for the healthcare professionals in the state of Hawaii and the opportunity this bill presents to bring acupuncture to a higher standard of practice and recognition. I am offering now a statement of opposition regarding the current rendition of SB 2276 for reasons stated in my two previous commentaries submitted in reference to the evolution of this bill relating to acupuncture in Hawaii, as well as, additional concerns and considerations.

We stand at a pivotal cross-roads of elevating and integrating the principles and practices of acupuncture in collaboration with western medicine. Each must preserve their integrity and autonomy while furthering the future of healthcare in Hawaii by respecting their individual domains and exchanging vital knowledge and applications. I am actively engaged in the proposal of a credentialed TCM program being offered within a conventional medical school curriculum. We have an exciting journey ahead.

Acupuncture, as part of the TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) healthcare system, has evolved over 2500 years to be acknowledged by conventional western medicine. It deserves and demands from those involved in promoting and progressing acupuncture and TCM in the US, time for more deliberation, investigation and clarification in determining legislative action that will eventually become law. My deepest concerns remain. The bill, as it stands, does not do justice to either side. There are vague definitions that appear to almost plagiarize western medical terminology, obvious omissions of stated educational requirements and lack of transparency for the public welfare and safety standards of the state. I believe a temporary tabling of the bill is in order to bring the key players to the proverbial round table and collectively decide the parameters of an effective bill that would better serve the practitioners, the patients and the future of acupuncture in Hawaii.

These factions include:

**HMA (Hawaii Medical Association)**

**HAA (Hawaii Acupuncture Association)**

**BME (Hawaii Board of Medical Examiners)**

**AAMA (American Academy of Medical Acupuncture)**

**ICAOM (Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine) Hawaii**

**NCCAOM (National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine)**

**JABSOM (John A. Burn School of Medicine-University of Hawaii)**

**ACUPLAN**

I reiterate my previous concerns. Although I am fully in favor of the field of acupuncture being elevated and respected in Hawaii and throughout the US, I am most concerned that this is achieved through also respecting and acknowledging the concurrent elevation and clear statements of :

- **Upgraded Educational Standards**
- **Examination and Licensing Requirements**
- **Liability Mandates**
- **Continuing Education Requirements**

I have examined several national and state laws and regulations on acupuncture and invite interested parties to review the following links. They may shed some light on important issues that should be or could be addressed in a more formalized bill for the state of Hawaii.

California State Laws and Regulations on Acupuncture:  
[https://www.acupuncture.ca.gov > laws\\_and\\_regs](https://www.acupuncture.ca.gov > laws_and_regs)

New York State Acupuncture Laws and Regulations:  
<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/acu/acupunbroch.htm>

The systems of TCM and allopathy remain distinctly different in their ideologies and technologies, including the more personalized approach to the individual in TCM as compared to the disease/treatment approach favored in allopathy. They are connected in a common quest for ultimate health and healing, yet, as different as night and day. They represent the symbolic Yin/Yang duality within the unity that expresses our collective humanity and ecosystem.

Sincerely,

**Elizabeth Chen Christenson, MD, LAc**  
**Medical Director, CHI Lifestyle Medical Center**

**934 Maunawili Circle Kailua, Hawaii 96734-4619**

**Phone: 808-261-7801**

**Email: [chimedical@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:chimedical@hawaii.rr.com)**

**Website: [www.ChiLifestyleMedicine.com](http://www.ChiLifestyleMedicine.com)**

**Associate Clinical Professor**  
**John A. Burns School of Medicine**  
**University of Hawaii**

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 11:53:35 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angelina Mercado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this important measure.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 12:48:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Claudia Henriquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill will help improve the standards of the acupuncture profession in Hawaii.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 1:09:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Heidi Beth Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is in the best interest of the public to have fully educated acupuncturists that must be updated on new techniques and laws as in any other licensed profession. Things are always changing and to best protect the public all licensed doctors should have ongoing training. The importance of even relearning your knowledge yearly is invaluable. Every CE class I have taken I hear something new that I hadn't fully understood the last class. It is also important to be updated on the latest legal issues which is extremely important when dealing with the public. I 100% support this bill!

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 2:41:51 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Doug Kroll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is just appropriate and needed. Please pass this bill.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 3:32:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cristin Ertel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support



**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 9:30:48 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matthew Harris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 am

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed Medical Doctor.

I reside Kailua and practice medicine. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

Below are the highlights that I find important:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Matthew E Harris, MD

House of Representatives Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc

Otab83@gmail.com

Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 Time: 2:00pm

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB 2276 SD2 HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Kitagawa, and Honorable Committee Members,

I am Barbara Ota, a Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, licensed as a DAc in Hawaii. I serve as President of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association, thus I am very active, not only in the care and health of my patients, but in the health and concerns of this profession. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2276 SD2 HD1.

I reside on the Big Island of Hawaii on the Kohala Coast and practice acupuncture medicine here in the State of Hawaii.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

Below are the highlights that I find important:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.

- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training, and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications

I do though, respectfully request for clarification the following language to be included in the declaration:

1. **[§436E-1]** **Declaration of necessity for regulation and control.** The legislature hereby finds and declares that acupuncture medicine is an evidence-based medicine rooted in traditional and modern modalities and that the practice of acupuncture [is a theory and method for] medicine includes examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of [illness and disability and for strengthening and invigorating the body and as such affects] the patient, therefore requiring regulation and control as an essential service for public health, safety, and welfare

2. "Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics, as further determined by administrative rules.

Updating and clarifying HRS 436E will set precedent to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system. These statutory updates will provide Hawaii's current and future medical and social needs, with highest standards of care and safety accurately reflecting the standards of practice for our industry and for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2 HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Barbara Ota, DACM, DAc



## **Liberata J. Orallo**

DACM, Dipl. Ac (NCCAOM) DAc, LMT  
444 Nahua Street Suite 1805 Honolulu, Hawaii 96815  
[ljorallo@gmail.com](mailto:ljorallo@gmail.com) (808) 429-4000  
Hawaii License Acu 666 NPI 1003406059

### **House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce**

March 22, 2022

Tuesday, 2:00 pm Via VideoConference  
(Written Testimony Only)

### **Testimony in Support of SB 2276 SD2 HD1**

Relating to Acupuncture

To the Honorable Chair, Representative Aaron Johanson, and the Honorable Vice Chair, Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

My name is Dr. Liberata J. Orallo, a licensed Doctor of Acupuncture in private practice in Honolulu, a Clinic Supervisor for Acupuncture Interns from the Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ICAOM) at the Acupuncture Clinic of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, a member of the Governing Board of ICAOM, and an active member of the Hawai'i Acupuncture Association (HAA).

I stand in **support of SB 2276 SD2 HD1** which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes 436E, Acupuncture Practitioners. Our current statute is in dire need of being updated to not only reflect our profession's graduate level education and training in the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees as set forth by the nationally accredited commissions, but also to designate licensing requirements to be in line with stringent national credentialing standards and implement continuing education for renewal. Our standards of practice and current modalities of care must also be addressed while still maintaining and preserving the traditions of our unique medical system. Having advanced training is imperative to our profession.

In that light, it is exciting to report that the 11<sup>th</sup> revision of the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) will now include Traditional Medicine (TM) for the first time. It was adopted in May 2019 and came into effect on January 1, 2022. This initiative is a milestone for Traditional Medicine as an **essential service**. The ICD11 provides a common language that allows health professionals to share standardized information across the world for diagnosis used in medical billing, epidemiology, research, and cataloguing causes of death. In *Pharmaceutical Medicine (Lam et al, July 2019)*, it states that "ICD-11 will progressively transform the existing healthcare system from a Western Medicine dominant to an integrative Western Medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine health care system. The rationale is to include the best practices of both conventional and complementary therapies, uniting these practices into an integrative approach, especially when positive evidence about the efficacy and safety of TM for certain conditions and diseases is documented."

The Hawai'i Acupuncture Association (HAA) and the Hawai'i State Board of Acupuncture (BOA) have worked tirelessly to clarify the parameters in the revision of HRS 436E.

I would like to also comment that opposing testimony from the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture (AAMA) requesting the repeal of HRS 436E-3.5 prohibiting physicians and osteopaths from practicing acupuncture unless licensed under the Board of Acupuncture (BOA) is a subject that has been thoroughly researched and addressed by the Attorney General in Opinion No. 03-5 dated August 18, 2003 (see attached link). Without any ambiguity, physicians and osteopaths cannot practice medical acupuncture without being licensed by the BOA, and medical acupuncture does not fall outside of the scope of acupuncture since it is not sufficiently distinct from TM.

Hawai'i has the highest per capita of Acupuncture Practitioners of any State. What is paramount in this measure is ensuring that the health, safety, and welfare of the public has been met. The public deserves no less than competent practitioners.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

I kindly ask the Committee for the passage of this measure with the following amendments:

- 1) **Section 3. "Section 436E-1 Declaration of necessity for regulation and control. The legislature hereby finds and declares that acupuncture medicine is an evidence-based medicine rooted in traditional and modern modalities and that the practice of acupuncture medicine includes examination, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of the patient, therefore requiring regulation and control as an essential service for public health, safety, and welfare."**
  
- 2) **Section 4. Section 436E-2.**  
**"Practice of advanced acupuncture medicine" means the practice of acupuncture medicine and the use of advanced diagnostics, specialties, and therapeutics as further determined by administrative rules."**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and for your time and consideration.

References:

Lam, W.C., Lyu, A. & Bian, Z. ICD-11: Impact on Traditional Chinese Medicine and World Healthcare Systems. *Pharm Med* **33**, 373–377 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40290-019-00295-y>

State Of Hawaii Department of The Attorney General. (2003, August 18). *Medical Acupuncture as it Relates to the Scope of Practice of Acupuncture (op. 03-05)*. The State of Hawaii. <https://ag.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/03-05.pdf>

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 2:58:35 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kelly sandulli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill for upadating this scope of practice for acupuncture medicine



**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 3:11:45 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill and hope that you will as well.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 3:38:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr. Dustin Dillberg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an Acupuncturist and active healthcare professional in our island state, I support this bill in it's entirety and ask to keep it as written with no additional changes.

Mahalo,

Dr. Dustin T. Dillberg DACM, D.Ac., L.Ac.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 4:02:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sarah Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am supporting this bill.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 5:03:29 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert LaReaux, DPM	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Mahalo,

Robert LaReaux, DPM

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 5:17:52 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lyna Morimoto	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in favor of most of the changes except the CEU continuing education section which favors the NCCAOM to control which and what courses or if any that we acupuncturists need to take and pay them for in order to renew our license from 2025. Many of us have been licensed for decades and continue to study our own choice of subjects. Many of us teach and mentor others based on our years of experience. To be forced to take NCCAOM courses is biased and is to the detriment of studies outside the purview of that for-profit agency.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 6:17:16 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Kurosu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a medical doctor and licensed acupuncturist practicing in the State of Hawaii, I support SB2276 SD2 HD1.

Catherine Kurosu, MD, LAc.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 7:51:00 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruby Gee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 2276 modernizes Hawaii's acupuncture law in a way that will ensure the public receives appropriately trained and licensed care. Additionally, it allows for Chinese Medicine to be practiced with more sub-modalities previously not in the scope of practice, which opens the opportunity for increased positive outcomes for patients.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 9:05:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Clara Wong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Following are my comments regarding SB2276.

I have previously objected to SB2276 and to the companion bill HB1679. The reasons I have previously stated are as follows:

I am the sole member of Acupuncture and Herbs from China LLC and have been licensed to practice acupuncture in the State of Hawaii since 1993. Prior to 1993, I practiced acupuncture in the People's Republic of China for 7 years. In total, I have been practicing acupuncture for over 36 years. I oppose the changes to Chapter 436E of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended, embodied in HB1679 on the grounds that (1) the proposed changes are draconian and severely excessive and will interfere with the practice of acupuncture and (2) no informed survey and impact study has been conducted to assess the many effects of all such embodied changes to practitioners (like me), patients and administrators of acupuncture. The proposers of HB1679 and the companion Senate bill did not contact me or any the many colleagues whom I have spoken to about this proposal before proceeding to attempt to impose these problems on acupuncture practitioners, patients and administrations. My colleagues were completely surprised when I told them about this problem, as they had no notice of such proposal. I strongly object to both bills.

In addition, I have been informed recently that the many substantial changes to HRS Chapter 436E contained in SB2276 and HB1679 are not the result of any model or uniform legislation proposed by the Uniform Law Commission, <https://www.uniformlaws.org>. As you may know, the Uniform Laws and Model Acts promulgated by the highly regarded Uniform Law Commission are often the exclusive basis for the adoption by many States of new laws and changes to existing laws and go through a rigorous analysis and review before being proffered by the Uniform Law Commission. The Uniform Law Commission has no Uniform Law or Model Act regarding acupuncture practitioners. At all. None.

Before acting on SB2276 and HB1679, our government needs to know who wrote SB2276 and HB1679 (again, since it was not the Uniform Law Commission) and the motivation and reasons for each such change. Then an impact analysis needs to be conducted to evaluate the effect of those many substantive changes.

Clara Wong



**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 9:28:30 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brett Kurashige	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB2276 for the following reasons:

1. It will create what economists call a "barrier to entry" that discourages longtime licensed acupuncture practitioners (particularly small independent part-time acupuncturists) from practicing, thereby reducing the supply of acupuncturists in Hawaii. The proposed compulsory continuing education requirements are burdensome and unnecessary, and only serve to generate revenue for the acupuncture education industry, the compliance testing industry, and the acupuncture insurance industry. Additional costs/time on individual practitioners to comply with these new requirements will ultimately increase costs to patients seeking affordable acupuncture treatment.

2. Acupuncture is part of Traditional Chinese Medicine which has been safely practiced for over 2,000 years. it has stood the test of time. "Modern" acupuncture schools still teach what has been handed down over centuries. The existing Hawaii education and licensure program for acupuncturists has served the State of Hawaii well. Hawaii has one of the highest per capita number of acupuncturists in the country. Acupuncturists have an excellent safety record. SB2276 will not improve upon this. More red tape and unnecessary mandatory continuing education requirements are not needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony against SB2276.

Brett Kurashige (ACU-818)

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 11:57:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Fishbein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support acupuncture.

I support island folks being able to access safe care

I believe in continuing education

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 6:47:42 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ben Lowenthal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is much-needed regulation for this kind of medicine. Please pass this bill.

03/21/2022

Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Dawn Nicole Fechtig, L.Ac.  
[shengherbals@gmail.com](mailto:shengherbals@gmail.com)  
808-941-9531

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022  
Time 2pm  
Via videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed acupuncturist (L.Ac.) and active member of the Hawai'i Acupuncture Association.

I reside on Maui and practice acupuncture medicine in private practice in Wailuku. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

Below are the highlights that I find important:

- Simplify and rename application for licensure to eliminate outdated requirements while implementing current national standards for education, national board certification and continuing education requirements for license renewal.
- Legacy exemptions are defined.
- New definitions aligned with the current medical terminology, education, training and skills practiced by acupuncturists, while maintaining and preserving the traditions of this complete medical system.
- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.

- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my sincere gratitude. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

*Dawn N. Fechtig, L.Ac.*

Dawn Nicole Fechtig, L.Ac.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:06:24 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Faith Tengan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this update to bring standards uptodate and include continuing education requirements.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:16:13 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gina M. Snowden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Support of SB2276 SD2, HD1**

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

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- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita acupuncture practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Gina M. Snowden

Licensed Acupuncturist, LAc, MSOM



**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:17:20 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
elizabeth morriss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support bill SB2276 SD2 HD1 education and the update of this bill is important for this profession. I want to make sure all my health care acupuncture are education with up to date standards in safety and care.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:29:38 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
TEREZA RAPOZA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Members,

My name is Tereza Rapoza and I live in Wailuku, Maui. I am an employee of Longevity Health Center. I am testifying today in support of SB2276.

Please consider supporting/opposing this bill.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,  
Tereza Rapoza

383 Neki Pl

Wailuku,HI 96793

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:45:44 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mee Yuk Chan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:46:56 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
tammy Leung	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 10:05:20 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca “Becky” Jacobs	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

drbeckyjacobs@gmail.com

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 am

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: **SUPPORT**

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc) and a Board member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I reside in Kamuela and practice acupuncture medicine in Kohala. I am writing this testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.**

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii’s existing statute, which hasn’t been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

Below are the highlights that I find important:

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- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Dr. Becky Jacobs, DACM, DAc.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 10:37:21 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
soraya applegate	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Report Title: In support of this proposal for continuing education  
Acupuncture; Acupuncture Practitioners; Acupuncture Medicine Doctors; Licensure; Continuing Education

Description:

Makes comprehensive updates to chapter 4365, Hawaii Revised Statutes, regarding acupuncture practitioners to reflect modernized scopes of practice, titles, and licensing and renewal requirements. Beginning with the renewal for the licensing biennium commencing 7/1/2025, requires licensees to obtain thirty hours of continuing education per licensing biennium. Allows the board of acupuncture to issue licenses by reciprocity. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD1)

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 10:52:28 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mei Shikiya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagaw

sunpalacetcm@gmail.com

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm

Via written testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I reside in Mililani and practice acupuncture medicine in Honolulu. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

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- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this bill, SB2276 SD2, HD1.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mei Li

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 11:49:09 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Giuliana Gasparin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 12:44:46 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pedro Armington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 1:12:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janet H. Boyd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

7seasacupuncture@gmail.com  
Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 am

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

I have written many testimonies on this bill, for this last testimony I am going to take an angle that is more casual, but perhaps more heartfelt. I am going to try to explain what Licensed Acupuncturists go through in these times.

I have been practicing since 2009. I started school in Honolulu in January of 2001. My full education was four years, year round of graduate school. My doctorate degree is another one and half years. I have been practicing in Lihue, Kauai since 2012.

The acupuncture profession is growing. But many people want parts of it, and do not want to take the time, money or concentration and fortitude to complete the entire program. Acupuncture and Chinese medicine is a complete medicine. As more relevant studies come out in proving or occasionally disproving it's efficacy, it will grow. This medicine should be a part of regular medical care.

As a practitioner, it can be exasperating, everyone practices cupping now, everyone can practice guasha, Chinese herbs are available over the internet. "Dry needling" a term used by Physical Therapist to needle trigger points is pushed to be accepted and legal. All of these techniques can be dangerous if not fully trained. Licensed Acupuncturists receive a very comprehensive and detailed education, other professions do not receive this comprehensive training in this medicine. Everyone wants a piece of the medicine but again they are unwilling to take the time and mental capacity to learn the medicine. They do not respect the medicine. On the other side we have some M.D.'s and other health professionals pushing acupuncture medicine down and not accepting it as a medicine. All of this is disrespectful to a medicine that is now recognized by the World Health Organization.

Let Acupuncture take its rightful place as a real medicine in these Hawaiian islands. Let Hawaii be a bridge from East to West, and let Hawaii lead the rest of the nation in accepting, supporting and incorporating this viable, practical, affordable and effective medicine.

This bill is a step forward to bring acupuncture up to date with current language and continued education.

Please support this bill,

Thank you for your time and patience,

Janet Hayden Boyd D.A.C.M. ,L.A.c.

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 1:26:08 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Courtney Wexler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I reside in Honolulu and am an acupuncture medicine student in Honolulu. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.

Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

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- Expand and clarify upon the concepts of the two existing license designations: LAc, DAc. in line with national trends.
- Reciprocity inclusive of applicants who have maintained licensure and certifications in other jurisdictions wanting to be licensed in the state of Hawaii.

It is time for Hawaii, with its long history of acupuncture, along with the highest per capita Acupuncture Practitioners of any state, to integrate the profession into Hawaii's healthcare delivery system with highest standard and care for the citizens of Hawaii. I respectfully ask you to please support this SB2276 SD2, HD.

I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Courtney Wexler

**LATE**

**SB-2276-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 10:51:54 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/22/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laura Michele	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson

Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa

[If representing organization or group here]

[Email or contact #]

Hearing Date: March 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 am

Via Videoconference/online testimony

Position on SB2276 SD2, HD1: SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Honorable Vice Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa and Honorable Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

I am a licensed Acupuncture Practitioner (LAc) and active member of the Hawaii Acupuncture Association.

I reside in Lawai, Kauai and practice acupuncture medicine in Kalaheo & Kapaa. I am writing this testimony in SUPPORT of SB2276 SD2, HD1.



Regulated medical professions require safety of the public and access to care to be of primary importance. Acupuncture medicine has been one of the fastest growing segments in American healthcare and with this the profession has seen standardization of education, national certifications, and the formation of both Master and Doctoral degrees. Hawaii's existing statute, which hasn't been updated in over 20 years, has become outdated in its language, as well as deficient in its standards. The proposed Scope of Practice addresses these issues, while also improving the structure of the Bill for future updates.

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I extend to you and your esteemed colleagues my aloha. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Dr. Laura Michele, DAOM (Doctor of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine)